For States/Union Territories reporting community spread, a mitigation strategy of triage and curative treatment is followed. For those not reporting community spread, the strategy is to limit/contain, the spread of infection by surveillance, early detection, isolation, treatment, contact tracing and providing Chemoprophylaxis.

Diversion of ink and paper used for currency notes

*71. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn the attention of the countries supplying high quality ink and paper used for printing currency notes that their products are being diverted to anti-Indian forces, who are printing and circulating fake Indian currency notes to destabilise the Indian economy;

(b) if so, the reactions of the countries whom Government has approached;

(c) whether any new fool-proof technology would be enforced to check fake currency notes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The fake Indian currency notes detected by banks and seized by the law enforcing agencies have not made use of security paper and ink of the same specifications, as used in the Indian bank notes. Therefore, taking up the issue with countries, from where the ink and paper are procured, does not arise.

(c) and (d) The security features of the Indian bank notes are upgraded from time to time with a view to check counterfeiting. Last series of bank notes with upgraded security features was issued in 2005. New series of banknotes with further upgraded security feature is scheduled to be issued in 2011.

Financial crisis in Air India

*72. SHRI B.K HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a final decision to rescue Air India from its present financial crisis;

(b) whether most of the countries have got over their fixation of owning a State airline or national flag carrier;

(c) if so, whether there are no obvious solutions for Air India within the ambit of Government ownership; and

(d) whether Government's aid package will be conditional to Air India embarking on manpower rationalization by paring its staff to about half its current strength of 32,000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Group of Ministers (GOM) on Civil Aviation has decided upon the financial package for the airline.

(b) No such information is available with or maintained by the Government.

(c) and (d) Group of Ministers is exploring all possible solutions for bringing Air India in good financial health.

Shortage of vaccines in the country

*73. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of children are dying in the country because of an acute shortage of vaccines for preventable diseases;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government had received reports from State Governments about deaths of children due to shortage of vaccines; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage of vaccines?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the information available, no death due to shortage of vaccines has been reported.

(c) To avoid any shortages in availability of vaccines, orders have already been placed on Public Sector and Private manufacturing units for 2008-09 and 2009-10.

Gender specific allocation in PRIs

*74. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the gender specific allocation in Panchayats and local bodies;

(b) whether special resources for training women in Panchayati Raj, Institutions (PRIs) also being considered; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): (a) There is no such proposal in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

(b) and (c) Yes. Ministry of Panchayati Raj has made special resources available for training Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) under a scheme called Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan. The expenditure under this scheme during 2008-09 was Rs. 4.4 crores.

Sharing of black money information by Swiss Banks

*75. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: